

OPTICAL ELEMENT, METHOD FOR PRODUCING THE SAME, AND  
OPTICAL PICKUP

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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10 An optical element having a substrate formed by an optical material and able to improve mechanical strength, wherein the substrate has a convex part functioning as a convex lens, a flat part positioned around the convex part, and an outer circumference part positioned around the flat part. The thickness of the substrate at the outer circumference part is greater than that of the substrate at the flat part.